

WHIPPING

CONFEDERATION.

The Great Question of the Day

Over the Border.

**No Other Course but Confederation Open
After the Termination of Reciprocity.**

**The Scheme to be Immediately Pushed
Through the Canadian and New
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Our Cornwall Correspondence.

CORNWALL, C. W., March 3, 1896.

"In a few weeks now we are sure to have confederation," said the Hon. J. S. Macdonald (the second Minister of Canada) last night; and his words have thrown the country into a state of excitement. No doubt his ground for this assertion was derived from the conference of the Governors of this province and New Brunswick on the evening of the 24th ult., at which he and the Attorney General East were present.

The object in declaring this important step at a dinner in Cornwall—which only a small town in Central Canada—seems to have been two-fold. One was to give new life to the movement and encourage those who are in favor of it; the other to declare the coming success in the very headquarters of the opposition; for Cornwall is the constituency of the Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Premier of the late reform ministry.

The boast that "in three weeks we are sure to have confederation," indicates two things, namely—That the

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lost, and possibly the question would be lost, as it was in New Brunswick. If this step be taken there will be a great outcry from the reform and *ouge* sections of the people—that is, such of the reformers as are not under the influence of the confederate leaders. In and east of Quebec there may be some violent demonstration against this slight to the people, for there the *ouges* are very strong, and are well represented in Parliament. In the West and far West there will be general approval of any course which the government may take to carry the scheme, for the two great parties there are united on this question.

"TWO THOUSAND WELL DRILLED OFFICERS FOR THE MILITIA."

This was another boast of the Attorney-General, West. This declaration is a little funny; for, owing to the want of correct ideas on defence, the administration of Canada has neglected the militia as far as a by-word among those who know better. It is very likely that the Minister of War is bluffing. He is very likely that the Minister of War is bluffing. He is very likely that the Minister of War is bluffing.

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he flatters himself very much in any such thought. His acts amount to this—He has created a large staff of men with no talent, and knowing only the little they learned as lieutenants in the British army, which, by the way, is very little.

This staff consists of an adjutant general and of a dozen assistant adjutant generals. The first has little or nothing to do, and the others attend him at that. There is an occasional review of something, and after that it is over the Adjutant General sends in a report, in which he takes care to thank every one (as if after a hard fight with an enemy) for doing nothing.

The boast of the Minister would seem to have been made in vain, for he has no room for the defence of the country, and how thoroughly he had placed it in a state of defence. His object in making the boast can only be guessed at. It may have been to intimidate the French, and to show that he was not a coward, and that it could not be to do if the staff of those "two thousand well drilled officers" were known to them. Again, the Minister may have wanted to show the people of Canada that something had been done, for all the money

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is to meet on the 20th inst. at Ottawa, and then to send the will the question of confederation come to an issue. Macdonald, Cartier and Dufferin will follow to the support of any act that the Governor General may see fit to execute, and the voices of the opposition will be drowned in the sea of popularity that will surround the policy of triumph from east to west will come from the ministerial press, and the matter will then be a fixed fact, if allowed to rest.

FOR FUTURE BELIEF OF CANADA.

A head for the confederation that is to be to be sought for in the person of one of the ablest men England can send out. Some were in favor of having a prince, but the best of all is to have a man, and the only man was the Hon. T. D. McGe, who is now very warmly attached to the royal family, from Albert Edward down to the youngest child. The belief of the people, however, that their chief magistrate ought to be endowed with some intelligence, and so they want a governor general, and not a prince.

Again the name for the new confederation has come up. There were many number of suggestions about this year, but the hall goes, now they are thought of by the Hon. McGe, the present Governor General of the

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spoken of. It is possible that, in the event of confederation, the present Governor of Canada will become the Governor General of the United Provinces.

Our St. John Correspondence.

St. John, N. B., March 1, 1906.

The Lieutenant Governor has just got back from his visit to the Governor General of Canada, which visit was a "drying" one. He has been only seven days on the way, going and returning, which, for an official of his rank, is hasty movement. The object of his Excellency's visit was a very important one. It is now known that he went to confer with the Governor General of Canada on the pressing question of confederation; and though the details of the conference will not transpire until the meeting of Parliament, it is known that the two Governors, acting under directions from England, have arranged to bring the question before their respective Parliaments at the next meeting. The Parliament of this

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tion to tolerate. If the question were left to the people it would be negative, for it is clearly shown that Canada would derive nearly all the benefit from union; but, this time, all the influence of the home government is to be directed upon the carrying of the measure. It is to be intimated that the wish of the Crown is for confederation; and it is presumed that no one with any regard for the representation of the Crown will then oppose the scheme.

It remains to be seen whether it is the "Quebec scheme." Some go so far as to say that the question with them is whether New Brunswick is to be ruled by the representatives of the people or by the Crown.

The opposition in Nova Scotia is Nova Scotians, it being more under the influence of the home government and taking its tone from the English press.

There are some persons in Quebec who are against any attack or raid by bodies of Fenian has come up, and it is believed that this formed a part of the matter conferred upon the British government.

Should Canada not be the object of attack troops could be sent from there to New Brunswick, and

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north. The army of New Brunswick at this season is thought to be the best in the world, is both long and wearisome. The state of the roads also will soon be broken and heavy, owing to the thaw. It is now thought that there is some danger to the provinces. The last news from Ireland shows that few can be spared for America, and the provinces can lend only very limited aid to each other. Canada might send a detachment of regular troops to assist in this province, and New Brunswick could spare two battalions. The militia is very little to be feared, though in arms.